



# The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society's **EXCITER**

## GET INVOLVED

- RARS General Membership meeting: Second Tuesday of the month.
- The RARS net meets every night except Saturday @ 8 p.m. on 146.640.
- The RARS Technical & Trader's net: Saturdays @ 8:00 PM on 146.64.
- RARS meets for a monthly dinner on the First Tuesday of each month.



## PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS

Interested in helping? Visit  
<http://www.rars.org/public-service.php>

frequently for our 2018  
ham public service  
schedule.

## RARS General Meeting

**Topic:** Civil Air Patrol, By: Don Williams, AB4IO

**Date:** July 10, 2018

**Time:** Meeting at 7:30PM

*Informal gathering and refreshments from 7 - 7:30 p.m.*

**Where:** Ridge Road Baptist Church. 2011 Ridge Rd., Raleigh

New HAM meeting, 6:00 p.m. before member meeting

Tadd Torborg, KA2DEW, New Ham Meeting Coordinator

[Click here for more information.](#)

## President's Message

Congratulations to everyone who participated in our recently completed, and extremely successful, ARRL Field Day!

Special thanks and congratulations go to Bob W4TTX who chaired the event and to every band captain and Field Day volunteer.

Of course, special thanks go to Jim N4CAE and Beth KF4QMR for the generous use of their lovely farm (and tall trees) as our Field Day location. Jim and Beth have allowed RARS to use their farm for Field Day for more than 20 years.

[Continued on page 4](#)

## RARS Officers

### **PRESIDENT**

Carl Davis  
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### **VICE PRESIDENT**

Tom Lewis  
N4TL  
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### **SECRETARY**

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### **TREASURER**

Greg Seamster  
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## The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society

The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society, Inc. (RARS) was founded in 1969 and continues to serve and support the amateur radio community in the greater Triangle area. In 1999, the society incorporated a new RARS and obtained 501(c)(3) non-profit tax status.

The objectives of the club are to promote worldwide friendship through amateur radio; to be of public service by providing radio communications in times of disaster, emergency, or civic needs; to educate members in radio technique, and to provide training classes to assist in obtaining amateur radio licenses.

Anyone interested in amateur radio is eligible to apply for membership. Dues for regular licensed amateurs are \$18 per year (from July 1 through June 30). Additional immediate family members pay \$5 each per year. Dues for licensed amateurs older than 59 or younger than 16 are \$12 per year. Dues for non-licensed associate members are \$9 per year. Applications for membership may be obtained from the treasurer or on the RARS website ([www.rars.org](http://www.rars.org)).

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## ***Exciter***

The Exciter is the official newsletter of the Raleigh Amateur Radio Society. It appears each month as a PDF on the RARS website at [www.rars.org](http://www.rars.org). Members receive email notification when the latest version is available. Please provide your email address to the Treasurer.

The Exciter welcomes articles, advertisements, and other contributions. To submit a piece to the newsletter, please contact the Editor. The Editor reserves the right to edit any and all pieces. The submission deadline for each month's Exciter is the third Friday of the preceding month. All submissions must be final. Drafts are not accepted.

The views expressed in the Exciter are those of the individual authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Editor or RARS.

Tom Lewis, N4TL, editor ([editor@rars.org](mailto:editor@rars.org))

## For Your Information

### RARS General Meeting

Date: Second Tuesday of each month

Location: Ridge Road Baptist Church 2011  
Ridge Road Raleigh, NC, 27607

Time: People begin arriving at 7 p.m. The meeting officially begins at 7:30 p.m.

### RARS Monthly Dinner

All members and guests are welcome to the monthly (first Tuesday) RARS Supper, 6:30PM, at the Golden Corral Restaurant, 6129 Glenwood Ave., Raleigh. Informal and Dutch, just bring your appetite and best rag to chew. 73, Chuck, K4HF

### RARS Repeaters in Raleigh

146.640 and 444.525

Join us for the nightly RARS net at 8 p.m. on the 146.640 repeater. All hams holding a Technician class license or higher are invited to check in. We welcome both RARS and non-RARS members to the net.

There is a net Listing on the RARS website click here. <http://www.rars.org/nets.php>

### VE Testing

The RARS VEs will accept walk-in testing in February, May, August and November at 5:30PM, prior to RARS membership meetings at Ridge Road Baptist Church; the RARSfest in April; the Cary Swapfest in July; the JARS-Fest in November; and following RARS license classes. Please bring a photo ID, your original and a copy of your current license, your \$14 exam fee, and any valid CSCEs that prove passing elements beyond that of your current license. Visit [www.rars.org](http://www.rars.org) for more information.

June 2018

### RARS Net Report Summary

Checkins: 575

Traffic Brought/Passed: 12/11

Minutes: 1088

Sessions: 30

Virginia Enzor NC4VA

RARS Net Manager

## Membership Renewal

### Reminder

The membership count at the end of the 2017/2018 fiscal year was 422, and there have been 282 renewals. If you have not renewed - please take a moment to renew your membership for the 2018/2019 membership year.

The following link <https://www.rars.org/joinrars.php> provides options for renewing your membership.

Thanks,

Greg KE4PAX

## President's Message continued

People who showed up on Friday for set up, loaned gear for use in the event, helped erect antennas, helped with food service, explained things to visitors, made others feel welcome and comfortable, operated a station, fixed computer problems, publicized the event over social media or by word-of-mouth, kept the generators running, fixed antennas, answered questions and those who helped with tear down on Sunday all contributed to our great success. Everyone's contribution was valued and appreciated!

We operated 7A and kept all of the stations active almost the entire time. We had 1 digital station, 2 CW stations and 4 SSB stations to come up with 7. We also had a GOTA station, a VHF station and a satellite station. Those stations did not count in our station number according to the Field Day rules but we got to count the QSOs they made into our score. Seeing the satellite station set up right next to the 40 meter CW station was a great example of the diversity in our great hobby – the old and the new coexisting and working together! We had many visitors; including hams and non-hams, children and adults. We had two operators who have only recently learned CW join our CW team for the first time and 10 visitors/participants sent radiograms to their loved ones back home from the Field Day site. The food was plentiful and outstanding. We even got a special concert on Friday evening thanks to Dan KW4TI who entertained us with his musical Tesla Coil (imagine Stars and Stripes Forever played on a giant bug zapper).

With Field Day in the books we begin the summer season. Consider packing up a radio and going to a local park or campground and doing some portable operation on your own or with a friend. Not only is this sort of activity fun, it is good preparation for what you might be called on to do in the event of a disaster. Also, as you travel around this summer remember to monitor 2 meters. Use the 146.64 repeater here in Raleigh and work towards your 64 on 64 award. Come out to the RARS Dinner the first Tuesday of each month at the Golden Corral on Glenwood at 6:30 PM as well as the RARS meeting on the second Tuesday of each month. We don't take summers off and have some great programs coming up. Also remember the Cary Hamfest on 21 July in Cary.

73 Carl Davis, W8WZ

*New HAM meeting, 6:00 p.m. before the  
member meeting*

*Tadd Torborg, KA2DEW, New Ham meeting Coordinator*

*The New Hams meeting is held every month before the regular RARS meeting.  
We'll try to start by 6pm. We try to address topics in a manner that will be of help  
to hams in their first year of operation.*

The June new hams meeting was about drilling holes and mounting  
vhf/uhf mobile antennas in the roof of a car.



Billy, KE4VNC, drilled two holes in a new AUDI

Our plan for the new ham meeting July 10th is to practice using crimp-on RG8X coax connectors. We'll be doing hands-on, as usual, with soldering, stripping and crimping tools.

73 Tadd - KA2DEW

## June 16 was Kids Day



From left to right, Murray, K4MHM, Logan (5) and Tyson (10).

Remember, you raise children and you grow hams.

73, Murray, K4MHM

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## June's Meeting, Door Prize winners



From left to right, KD4ISC Dick, KN4GUN Mike, NC1X Bob, and KN4LGS Elizabeth.



## Alan Pitegoff AB4OZ Earns “Sixty-Four on Six-Four Award”

Virginia Enzor NC4VA  
RARS Net Manager



Congratulations to Alan Pitegoff for earning the RARS “Sixty-Four on Six-Four Award” and receiving his certificate at the RARS meeting on June 11, 2018! To earn this award, he had to make 64 different station contacts on the 146.64 repeater. Alan is the first ham in 14 years to receive this award.

You, too, can earn this fun award and endorsements to proudly display in your ham shack. For details, please visit [www.rars.org](http://www.rars.org).

Way to go Alan!

# RARS Field Day 2018 Pictures

For information about RARS field day 2018 read the presidents comments on pages 1 and 4. These Pictures are from Bob Starkenburg, W4TTX and Tara Goodwin, W4TSW.





## RARS Field Day 2018 Pictures continued



We operated 7A and kept all of the stations active almost the entire time. We had 1 digital station, 2 CW stations and 4 SSB stations to come up with 7. We also had a GOTA station, a VHF station and a satellite station

[www.rars.org](http://www.rars.org)



## RARS Field Day 2018 Pictures continued



More Field Day pictures  
are on [page 32](#).

Dan KW4TI entertained us with his musical Tesla Coil  
(imagine Stars and Stripes Forever played on a giant bug zapper)

[www.rars.org](http://www.rars.org)

### RARS Birthdays

Cheryl	WA1WEY	07/01
Ernesto	KN4HZT	07/02
James	KE4DRN	07/03
John	KN4EQO	07/04
Doug	K1DUG	07/06
William Clifton		07/06
Chance	KN4IOS	07/07
Rick	KD4PJI	07/08
Jeff	KN4LLG	07/08
Joshua	KB3VKH	07/08
Steve	AC2AS	07/09
Cathy	KA3QPU	07/09
John	AI4RT	07/10
Annette	KB4AQH	07/11
Michael	KN4KWT	07/13
Doug	AD4UL	07/14
Wade	KG4KAH	07/14
Andy	KN4JJU	07/15
Jerry	WA1WHD	07/15
Al	KN4DRL	07/15
Alan	K1VZJ	07/17
Jim	KM4WRK	07/17
Kevin	N4FMQ	07/17
Lowell	K4EUP	07/17
Ed	KN4DRQ	07/19
Bob	K4RLC	07/19
Ferdinand	AD4RC	07/25
Lee	WB4DRJ	07/25
Charles	WB4DCM	07/26
Glenn	KS4VA	07/27

### RARS Birthdays

William	K4CIA	07/28
Meme	KE4NGM	07/28
Dave	W4YDY	07/29
Scott	KJ4TUC	07/30
Bob	KI4YXM	07/30
Alexander	KM4IIZ	07/31

### New RARS Members

John Metsger	N5ENH
Mike Elks	KN4GUN
Brian Polk	KN4NCP
Lauren Libby	W0LD
Bob Jones	KN4MRV



# Future Hamfests

A full list of Hamfests can be found at the [ARRL website](#).

**07/07/2018 | [33rd Annual 2018 Firecracker Hamfest](#)**

**Location:** Salisbury, NC

**Type:** ARRL Hamfest

**Sponsor:** Rowan Amateur Radio Society

**Website:** <http://www.rowanars.org/firecracker-hamfest/>

**07/21/2018 | [Mid-Summer Swapfest](#)**

**Location:** Cary, NC

**Type:** ARRL Hamfest

**Sponsor:** Cary Amateur Radio Club

**Website:** <http://www.qsl.net/n4nc/>



**07/28/2018 | [WCARS Hamfest](#)**

**Location:** Waynesville, NC

**Type:** ARRL Hamfest

**Sponsor:** Western Carolina Amateur Radio Society

**Website:** <http://wcars.org>

**08/11/2018 | [20th Annual Cape Fear ARS Swapfest](#)**

**Location:** Fayetteville, NC

**Type:** ARRL Hamfest

**Sponsor:** Cape Fear Amateur Radio Society

**Website:** <http://www.cfarsnc.org>



## Deepest Sympathies

A transfer of \$50 has been made to the RARS / Dick Bitner Youth Education fund in memory of Lauren “ Red” Taylor AC4QX (August 21, 1931 – April 30, 2018)

<http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/newsobserver/obituary.aspx?n=lauren-taylor&pid=188896783&fhid=10726>

73, Greg Seamster, KE4PAX

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## Future RARS Meeting Topics

Titles, topics, and speakers subject to change.

7/10/2018	Civil Air Patrol	Don Williams, AB4IO
8/14/2018	Linear Amplifiers	Bob Naumann W5OV Sales Manager for DX Engineering
9/11/2018	Satellite Communications	John Brier KG4AKV
10/9/2018	RARS Officers nominations RARS Auction	Election committee & TBD
11/13/2018	RARS Officers election and Show and Tell. Bring something of interest in Ham Radio that you would like to show off. Be prepared to talk about it. The time will be limited so everyone can have time to show their item.	Election committee & members
12/11/2018	RARS pot luck Holiday party. Sign up at the RARS website. RARS Officers induction.	Election committee

## 13 Colonies Special Event



**Dates: July 1 (9AM EST) to July 7 (Midnight EST) 2018**

A special event station in each of the 13 Original States will be operating during on HF and VHF from 9 AM Eastern time on 1 July to Mid-night Eastern time on 7 July. Try to work as many of the original 13 state special event stations as you can and QSL each of them for a special QSL card representing that state's colonial heritage.

If you work all 13 you earn a "Clean Sweep". A special certificate can also be ordered upon submission of your log. In addition there is a bonus station in England (GB13COL) and in Pennsylvania (WM3PEN). If you work them you qualify for a special endorsement. You can also order a very nice coffee mug with your callsign and a picture of your certificate on it showing your successful participation in the event.

The special event stations will be active on all HF bands except 60 meters and on 6 and 2 meters. Repeater contacts do not count but satellite contacts do. Most activity will be on HF SSB and CW.

Listen for the following callsigns and feel free to use spotting software, webpages and packet clusters for this event.

NY= K2A	MD = K2F	NH = K2K
VA = K2B	GA = K2G	SC = K2L
RI = K2C	MA = K2H	PA = K2M
CT = K2D	NJ = K2I	GB13COL = Bonus Station
DE = K2E	NC = K2J	WM3PEN = Bonus Station

Full information is on the webpage: <http://www.13colonies.net/index.html>

In North Carolina we have a team of about 12 hams who take turns working as K2J. It can be hard to work your own state due to propagation. I will again be on the K2J team this year so if during the event you need K2J to finish your sweep, let me know and we can meet on the air to get K2J in your log. 73, Carl W8WZ



## Spotlight on RARS Net Friends

Virginia Enzor NC4VA, RARS Net Manager



Hams are interesting people! Check out these two “OMs” who check into the RARS nets regularly. Remember, the net meets nightly at 8:00 PM on the 146.64 repeater. Please check in; we would love to hear from you!

### Spotlight on Rob Cox N4MN

Name, Callsign & License class

Rob Cox (Robert if you don't know me and Robbie if you knew me in High School)

Originally licensed as KM4MLY now N4MN – Extra class.

Year originally licensed

August 1, 2015 as a Technician

August 30, 2015 as a General and Extra

How did you get into ham radio?

I grew up in a dusty little Northern Arizona town made famous by Glenn Frey, Don Henley and the Eagles. I was standin' on a corner in Winslow, Arizona... As a kid I was I was interested in electronics and radio. I remember building a small transistor radio and I was amazed that, at night, I could hear AM 640 KFI out of southern California. That was simply amazing to me. With that love of electronics, I attended college and graduated with a degree in Electronics Engineering Technology. It was there that I first learned about Amateur Radio. We designed amplifiers, antennas, transmitters and receivers and I had every intention of getting my amateur radio license at that time. However, life happens. After graduation, career, and a new family took priority, I never seemed to have time to learn Morse code and so I never did get a ham radio License. Fast forward 25+ years. In February 2015, I was a Scoutmaster for a local Boy Scout Troop and, then RARS President, Murray Merner (K4MHM) came to a leadership meeting and talked about Ham Radio and Scouting. He mentioned that RARS had a Technician class coming up in July so I signed up and passed the test on August 1, 2015. RARS was offering a General class in August so I signed up for that and passed the General and Extra exams con-

secutively on August 29, 2015.

Thanks to Murray, Curt Phillips(W4CP), Mike Murphy (WA4BPJ) and the RARS VE team, I can't afford food or a mortgage anymore, but I can talk around the world on 100 watts and a wire.

What aspects of the hobby currently interest you?

Over the past three years I have made 4 or 10 antennas, I have put together 2 BitX40 radios and 1 uBitX radio. I have played with an Arduino that will remotely control my FT-817ND, I have played with digital modes and I've operated off-the-grid at campsites and for Jamboree-on-the-Air. I recently purchased a ZumaSpot digital hotspot that will do DMR, System Fusion, D-Star, and P25. I am in the middle of learning what I can about DMR. We'll see how that goes. All of these things have been extremely interesting. I also have other projects on my desk that need attention. I purchased a QRP Labs, QCX transceiver a few months ago, but I haven't had time to put it together. Clearly, I need more time (or fewer projects).

Positions that you hold in RARS or other organizations

I'm currently working in the church's youth program. I work in a Raleigh-area leadership position with others. We plan multi-congregation youth activities and provide training and support to local congregation youth leaders.

Any special awards? (DXCC, WAS, WAC, IOTA, etc.)

I have earned WAS with five additional endorsements, one for digital, for JT65, for 40-meters, for 40-meter digital, for 40-meter JT65. I'm currently sitting at 40 states for an FT8 endorsement. I'm also working on DXCC but it seems I can work European Russia or Ukraine all day long, but I can't get Belarus, Moldova, Jamaica or Belize, or Kuwait, or ... I could go on.

I also earned the QRP Amateur Radio Club International award for working a Russian station on 5-watts. The award is the 1000 Miles-Per-Watt-Award.

Any special project you are currently working on?

I've got some wire strung up in some trees in the back yard that eventually will become a sec-



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ond HF antenna... hopefully. I'm keeping my fingers crossed that this new antenna will get me the extra DXCC entities that I need! I'm working on the DMR hotspot that I mentioned above and I have the pieces and parts for a QRP magnetic loop antenna – one day I'll put that together and get it on the air.

#### Interests outside of radio?

I like backpacking on the Appalachian Trail. Each June we do an extended trip of 60 – 70 miles and I look forward to it every year. This will be my 11<sup>th</sup> time to go. I also am a baseball fan, you can find us periodically at the Durham Bulls game and during baseball season, I'm probably listening to or watching the Chicago Cubs play. I have been involved in the Boy Scouts for many years and I've enjoyed working with the young men.

#### Words of advice for new hams?

Contrary to popular belief, it doesn't take a whole lot of money to get into the hobby. Chinese HTs for working the 2m repeaters in the area can be purchased for \$25 - \$50.00 on Amazon.com. An HF SSB transceiver kit (uBitX) can be purchased for \$129.00 that will work 3Mhz – 30Mhz with an output up to 10 watts. With this radio, some coax, some connectors and a length of wire, you can have a blast.

Also, don't be afraid to ask questions. If you ask 10 different hams you may get 11 different answers and most of them will be almost correct. I've found this is a hobby based on science but made practical through trial and error and experimentation. Sometimes we don't know why it works... we just know that it does.



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Raspberry Pi3 that Rob put together and interfaced with FT-817ND

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## Spotlight on Carl Davis W8WZ

Name, Callsign & License class

Carl Davis, W8WZ, Amateur Extra

Year originally licensed

1994 as KB8WBZ

How did you get into ham radio?

My grandfather was a radio operator in both the US Army Signal Corps and US Army Air Corps during WW2. After the war he repaired radios and TV sets for neighbors so I grew up watching him work on electronics and learned some basic things from him. He held a commercial license for his repair work but had no interest in operating so did not have an amateur license. When I was in middle school my science teacher WD8PFX had a ham station in the classroom and ran a school radio club. Several of my friends earned their novice tickets then. I never felt smart enough to do that so I just watched them. Then when I got into high school several of my teachers were hams (Science, Art W8PBO, English, Bill K8MAJ and Math, Dave N8NLK) and the

school had an A3S on the roof as well as dipoles for 40 and 80 meters. They would bring radios in after school and hook them up to the antenna and students who were hams made contacts while the rest of us watched. Most importantly, the radio club that science teacher Art, W8PBO founded met at our school and was a mixture of students as well as hams from the local community. Our monthly meetings were about 60 people, 1/3 current high school students and 2/3 hams from the community. The club taught a novice class every fall at the school. The class was 3 months long and met one night a week. My English teacher Bill, K8MAJ encouraged me to take the class. I told him I didn't think I was smart enough to pass the test and he told me "What do you have to lose? If you don't pass you aren't any worse off than you are now." That made sense to me and I signed up for the class. The first hour was code then we took a break and the second hour was theory. At the end of the class I passed the 5WPM code test, the novice written and to my surprise the technician written too – so I was never actually a novice. As a tech plus I had voice privileges on 10 meters but 10 meters was dead at that time and I wanted to talk around the world so I instantly started working towards 13WPM and the general theory. After that I wanted to be an Advanced, but I was then age 15 and had not studied trigonometry yet so couldn't do the math on the Advanced test. Local hams helped me learn. Bob, K8NSR an engineer at Ford Motor Company had me over to his house several nights a week to teach me the math and I earned my Advanced and also passed the Extra written test at that time, thanks to the help of local hams who taught me things that I would otherwise never have learned. After that it was a matter of getting my CW speed up to 20WPM which took about another 6 months of doing nothing but CW operating. I earned my Extra Class license about a year after I was first licensed when I was about 16 years old. When the vanity call program came out in about 1996 I got W8WZ.

What aspects of the hobby currently interest you?

I am an active CW operator and mostly rag chew on 40 meters around 7.028. I joke that I could be a novice and not change my operating practices much. 40 CW is as good as ham radio gets! I like running a collection of radios and keys. I especially enjoy running tube gear because I understand it and can work on it. In my station I have a collection of transmitters from the 1920s, 1930s, 1940s, 1950s, 1960s, 1970s, 1980s, 1990s, 2000s and to represent current production I also have an SDR Icom7300. I enjoy showcasing the technological advances decade by decade to those who visit my station. I use them all regularly.

I also have an assortment of keys. I am most fond of using a Vibroplex Bug so about 80% of my

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work is done with one of my bugs. The other 20% is split between a Begali iambic (the newest addition made at Hamvention), a K8RA brass iambic, a Kent single Lever, a Vibroplex single lever or one of my many straight keys (including the J38 my grandfather used in the war).

I am also active in the National Traffic System on both phone and CW and I am a net control station for the Section SSB net on the weekend.

I am one of the stations who activates North Carolina as K2J for the 13 colonies on the air event over the 4<sup>th</sup> of July week. I also enjoy working from the Battleship North Carolina as NI4BK during the Museum Ships Weekend and on Pearl Harbor Day.

Positions that you hold in RARS or other organizations

I am honored to serve as the President of RARS. I am a member of the ARRL, CW Ops, FISTS, SKCC, The Drake Collectors Association, and the Royal Order of the Wouff Houg. I also enjoy serving as a Volunteer Examiner. Outside of ham radio I am a Freemason, a Rotarian and a member of St. Christopher's Episcopal Church in Garner, NC.

Any special awards? (DXCC, WAS, WAC, IOTA, etc.)

I have the Rag Chewers Club award and a certificate of proficiency for 25WPM CW. I have no other real awards but am working on my 64 on 64 award from RARS.

Any special project you are currently working on?

Keeping my old transmitters on the air means there is always a project on the bench. I am very grateful for help from people who are more knowledgeable than I am such as N4TL, AB4OZ and WA3UTC for their help in keeping my radios running. Presently I am building a regenerative receiver based around a 6SN7 tube to match the crystal controlled 6L6 transmitter that I built a few years ago. Joe WA4GIR was of special help with that project. I will use this set up in the annual Novice Rig Roundup operating event.

Interests outside of radio?

There are interests outside of radio? I enjoy gardening, making jam and canning the vegetables from my garden. I also enjoy fly fishing and target shooting. I am a pipe smoker and an enjoyer of Islay



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Scotch Whisky. I am especially interested in American history and enjoy traveling to see places of historic significance. The rest of my time is spent working so I can afford to pay Duke Energy for electricity for my transmitters.

Words of advice for new hams?

Have fun! It is a hobby, if it is not fun you are not doing it right. Amateur Radio is a very diverse hobby – so try as much of it as you can to see what you like, then enjoy the part that is fun for you. A great thing about RARS is that we have members who are into all the different parts of our hobby so you can find someone else who shares your interest in our club. If you want to learn CW check out the CW Academy offered by the CW Ops club, it will teach you Morse code via Skype at no cost to you.

Carl Davis W8WZ at  
his station.



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Look at all the fine keys at Carl's station.

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### May issue of CQ

Fin Gold, NC4FG, RARS member is mentioned on page 72 of the May issue of CQ magazine. The article he is mentioned in is about "Learning to Understand" by Ron Ochu, KO0Z. Page 71 and 72 is about using a CNC machine to cut wood. It states that Fin Gold, NC4FG, is a woodworker and TARP node builder.

# Minutes

## Raleigh Amateur Radio Society

### Board Members Meeting

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*Date | time* 05/15/18 @ 7:05 pm | *Meeting called to order by* Carl Davis W8WZ

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#### In Attendance

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11 Members, 1 Visitors

Carl Davis W8WZ

Tara Goodwin W4TSW

Alan Pitegoff AB4OZ

Chuck Littlewood K4HF

Hank Montgomery K4HM

Virginia Enzor NC4VA

Joanne Mars AA3N

Greg Seamster KE4PAX

Murray Merner K4MHM

Tom Lewis N4TL

Visitor:

Richard Kroeger N1FUA

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#### Approval of Minutes

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Quorum present: April Board Meeting Minutes Approved

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#### President Report-Carl W8WZ

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Present; no report to give

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## Vice President Report-Tom N4TL

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Tom added Linear Amplifiers to the August presentation schedule and this will be done via either Skype or Zoom and presented by a Bob (W5OV) from DX Engineering. Tom will not be available the night of that meeting but is planning to team up with Tara (W4TSW) on how to use the church A/V equipment so that there will be someone on site with the knowledge to assist the guests.

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## Treasurer's Report-Greg KE4PAX

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Greg reported that there are now 413 members and stated he would give a more in-depth report under old business to follow up from last month.

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## Secretary's Report-Tara W4TSW

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Tara let the board know that due to work conflicts there is a delay in the Member Minutes but those should be out soon.

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## Directors Reports

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**Education Director-Carl W8WZ:** Carl stated that, due to the downtime in between classes, he did not have a report. He was asked by Chuck (K4HF) if he had a waiting list and he stated he was always receiving communications regarding the upcoming classes and, in between the technician classes, he sends them to the videos and VE testing sessions and invites them to our meetings until the next class. There was also a discussion to track other clubs in the area's classes so we can refer interested parties to other classes between ours.

He also stated he's been asked about General and Extra classes but, at this time, we are short on instructors. We have material and instructors for Technician but not the materials and instructors for General and Extra that have committed to teaching, at this time.

There were more discussion on doing the videos has a PowerPoint/webinar, for a more professional look, but without a copy of the material this has been placed on hold. Tara (W4TSW) is going to reach out to some instructors in other clubs, which she knows, to see if they would assist in sharing their materials if we gave them acknowledgment in the videos.

There was also continuing discussion on the best way to promote the free RARS membership to the correct market of newly licensed amateur radio operators that attend a RARS promoted testing session.



**Exciter Chair-Tom N4TL:** The Exciter is doing well. He has requested that all articles to be submitted by June 1<sup>st</sup> for the next month issue.

**Webmaster-Hank K4HM:** At this time the website had not made the expected move to the more secure server but he will keep the board up to date on the upcoming move and changes. In preparation he has started cleaning up unused webpages and storing the information into a separate server to prevent google searches from pulling the pages.

**Net Manager-Virginia NC4VA:** Virginia stated that all was going well with the 8pm nets and that the 10m net is also pulling a steady attendance. She is also excited about the revival of the "Sixty Four on Six Four" award. She let Hank (K4HM) know that she would be sending him some information regarding the contest for placement on the website.

**ARRL Liaison-Chuck K4HF:** Chuck didn't have anything to report but he did mention he expected them to have a great presentation at the upcoming Dayton Ham Fest.

**Director-at-large-Joanne AA3N:** Present; no report to give

**Director-at-large-Alan Pitegoff AB4OZ:** Present; no report to give

**Youth Director-Murray K4MHM:** Present; no report to give

**RARSFEST Chair-Tara W4TSW:** Present but no report to give

**Food Service Chair-Bill AK4BL:** Not Present; no report sent/given

**Immediate Past President-Dennis NC4DK:** Not present, no report given

**Public Information Officer-Charles KM4AMT:** Not present, no report given

**ARRL NC Section Manager-Karl W4CHX:** Not present, no report given

**W4DW/W4RNC TRUSTEE-Jeff, AC4ZO:** Not present, no report given

**Field Day Chair-Marty W4MY:** Not Present, no report given

**Director-at-large-Marty W4MY:** Not present, no report given

**Public Service Director-John K3RHJ:** Not present, no report given

**NC QSO Party Chair-Marty W4MY:** Not Present; no report given

**FM Repeater Chair-Karl W4CHX:** Not Present, no report given

Greg (KE4PAX) mentioned that the coaxial for the 130 had been upgraded and he had paid the invoice for the installation but has yet to receive the invoice for the actual coaxial.

Carl (W8WZ) reiterated that he still has concerns regarding the repeaters with his number one concern being that there are no designated control operators. Alan (AB4OZ) believes if there is a need he could probably make it happen but agrees that we need to be more serious regarding designating control operators.

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## Old Business

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**Budget:** Greg (KE4PAX) gave an in-depth presentation of the 2018-2019 budget and a discussion on the cost and location of the current storage unit ensued, ending with the decision to keep the current location and pay a higher fee. The budget was thoroughly reviewed and discussed by the board and will be presented to the membership at the June membership meeting for approval.

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## New Business

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**Food Service Chair:** Carl (W8WZ) brought to the table that there were a few rapid changes in leadership and one of those, as mentioned at the members meeting, was that Bill (AK4BL) had submitted his resignation as Food Service Chair and that Richard (N1FUA) was stepping in for the remainder of the term. The board agreed to accept the resignation of Bill and agreed to the choice of Richard and will bring it to the membership for nomination in June and election in July.

**Field Day Chair:** The other change mentioned was that Marty (W4MY) has resigned as Field Day Chair and that Robert Starkenburg (W4TTX) will take over that position. At this time, Robert is not planning on keeping the position for 2019. It was agreed that there will not be a need to do a nomination and election, since Field Day is only a few weeks away, and it was decided to let him run the event then concentrate on finding an official Field Day Chair replacement starting in July.

**Field Day Setup:** Carl (W8WZ) had a request from a member asking about the products and materials that would normally have been provided by a particular member that will not be attending the Field Day event. It was decided that the board will let the Field Day Chair to make the decisions on what he needed and have him bring to the board any purchase or needs requests.

Minutes continued from the previous page

**NerdNite Presentation:** Tara (W4TSW) was reached out to from an organization called NerdNite that asked for a RARS member to do an amateur radio presentation. After some discussion it was decided she would pull together the material and do the presentation.

**Digital equipment:** Tara (W4TSW) presented the board with recommendations for a laptop computer, speakers, microphone, and laptop bag to be bought and used for RARS events. A set budget of \$300 for this equipment was approved by the board and would be ordered by Greg.

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## Additional Business/Comments/Announcements

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None

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## Next Meeting

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06/19/2018, 2011 Ridge Road at 7pm

Meeting was adjourned at 9:05pm

Meeting Minutes taken and Submitted by Tara Goodwin W4TSW

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# Minutes

## Raleigh Amateur Radio Society

### Members Meeting

06/12/2018 @ 7:32pm

In Attendance: 48 members and 2 visitors.

The monthly membership meeting of the Raleigh Amateur Radio Society met at Ridge Road Baptist Church in Raleigh. The meeting was called to order by President Carl, W8WZ, at 7:32pm.

The Pledge of allegiance was recited.

Visitors were KN4GUN Mike, and Austin (awaiting call sign).



## Approval of Minutes

A quorum being present, a motion to accept the minutes of the May 8, 2018 meeting as published in the Exciter, was made, seconded, and approved.

The food service chairman having resigned, the Nominating Committee last month nominated Richard Kruger N1FUA. Nominations were closed and Richard was elected by the membership as the new Food service Chairman.

## Continuing Announcements

The RARS dinner takes place monthly on the first Tuesday (next: July 3rd) at 6:30 pm at the Golden Corral, 6129 Glenwood Ave., Raleigh.

The next board meeting, which is open to all members, will be Tuesday, June 19 at 7 pm in the Ridge Road Church conference room. Afterwards many members retire to a nearby restaurant for a quick bite.

Tonight's after-meeting gathering will be at Rudino's, 3101 Edwards Mill Rd.

A new ham / Elmer's meeting with new hams, and anyone interested, takes place before each membership meeting at 6pm at the Ridge Road church.

Vice President's Report/Exciter Chair – Tom N4TL – not present

Treasurers Report: Greg KE4PAX gave the Treasurer's Report and reviewed at length the proposed budget for the fiscal year 2018-2019. A motion to accept the 2018-2019 budget as presented was made, seconded, and approved. For details on treasury matters contact Greg.

## Board and Committee Reports

Net Manager Virginia, NC4VA, presented the first (since 2004) revived ""Sixty-Four on Six-Four" " award to Allen, AB4OZ, for making sixty four unique contacts on the RARS 146.64 repeater.

There were no other reports.

Board and Committee with no reports

Public Service – John K3RHJ

FM Repeater Chair – Karl W4CHX

Food Service – Richard N1FUA

ARRL Liaison – Chuck K4HF

Youth Director – Murray K4MHM

ARRL Section Manager – Karl W4CHX

Webmaster – Hank K4HM

W4DW/W4RNC Trustee

Director-at-Large – Alan AB4OZ

Education Director – Carl W8WZ

RARSfest Chair – Tara W4TSW

Old Business – none

New Business

Dennis, NC4DK, presented a Tech Tip. He orders weatherproof Mylar golf club labels preprinted with ham info for about \$8 a sheet of 20. Contact Dennis for more information. Dennis also showed that GeoChron has a digital clock unit, for about \$400, using your own 4K monitor, as opposed to about \$4k for the original GeoChron clock display

NC4DK announced that Carl W8WZ has a book published which is available on Amazon.

Door prizes were won by KD4ISC Dick, KN4GUN Mike, NC1X Bob, and KN4LGS Elizabeth.

Program: W4TTX Bob presented Field Day 2018 and showed a video. Field Day started in 1937 and now involves over 40,000 hams, always the last weekend in June. Field Day will be back at the Carroll Farm on Friendship Road in Apex again. Tadd discussed the GOTA station, which anyone can operate because it will be supervised by a control operator. Ken KI4OTO discussed health, including hydration, and bugs, and generators.

The meeting was adjourned by president Carl at 8:36 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Robert E Chapman, NC1X

Acting secretary

## Current Public Service Opportunities

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To volunteer for a Public Service event please complete the form at the top of this page.

WELCOME TO THE 2018 HAM PUBLIC SERVICE EVENT SIGNUP PAGE. Choose the event(s) for which you would like to volunteer and complete the sign-up form at the top of the page... note... one form for EACH event that you are volunteering. It's also very helpful to indicate what type of assignment you're interested in.

***THE 2018 LIST OF PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS WILL BE POSTED AS CONFIRMED - CHECK BACK FREQUENTLY FOR UPDATED INFORMATION***

Events you can sign up for now:

[www.rars.org/public-service.php](http://www.rars.org/public-service.php)

The most versatile pieces of equipment for working as a ham volunteer during public service events are as follows:

### PRIMARY EQUIPMENT

- \* Dual band (144/440) 25 watt (min) mobile transceiver
- \* A 1/2-5/8 wave well grounded dual band mobile antenna

### EXTRAS THAT ARE HELPFUL

- \* Dual Band (144/440) hand held transceiver
- \* Extra set of charged batteries
- \* Ear phones & speaker mic or boom mic/headphone set
- \* Higher gain antenna than the supplied rubber duck. For example Comet BN-24 or SMA-24 or Diamond RHF40 or SRH77CA. There are also many other hi-gain HT antennas available.

Events you can signup for now:

### 2018 Firecracker 100K and 50K Ride

**July 4, 2018 - Wednesday - Holly Springs, NC**

This is a 32 and 62 mile bike event that requires SAGS, as well as Hams assigned to Rest Stops. This event benefits the Greater Carolinas' Multiple Sclerosis (MS) Society and typically has 800+ riders.

- \* Location: Carolina Brewing Company, 140 Thomas Mill Rd., Holly Springs, NC 27544
- \* Ham Coordinator: John Stone (K3RHJ)
- \* Website: [The 26th Annual July 4th Firecracker Ride](http://The 26th Annual July 4th Firecracker Ride)
- \* **TO VOLUNTEER, FILL OUT THE FORM AT [www.rars.org/public-service.php](http://www.rars.org/public-service.php)**

### **2018 BikeFest**

**August 11, 2018 - Saturday - Hillsborough, NC**

This event has 35, 62 and 100 mile routes and the proceeds benefit various Bicycling related charities. SAGS and Rest Stop Hams are needed.

\* Location: 106 E. Margaret Lane, Hillsborough (near the Orange County Court House), NC 27278

\* Ham Coordinator: John Stone (K3RHJ)

\* Website: [BikeFest](#)

\* **TO VOLUNTEER, FILL OUT THE FORM AT [www.rars.org/public-service.php](http://www.rars.org/public-service.php)**

### **2018 Five-O Memorial Bike Ride**

**August 19, 2018 - Sunday - Raleigh, NC**

This event has 32 and 65 mile courses and benefits the Raleigh Police Memorial Foundation. SAGS and Rest Stop Hams are needed.

\* Location: Life Time Athletic of Raleigh, 8515 Falls of Neuse Rd., Raleigh, NC 27815

\* Ham Coordinator: John Stone (K3RHJ)

\* Website: [Five-O Memorial Ride](#)

\* **TO VOLUNTEER, FILL OUT THE FORM AT [www.rars.org/public-service.php](http://www.rars.org/public-service.php)**

### **2018 Tour d'Orange**

**August 25, 2018 - Saturday - Hillsborough, NC**

This event has 36, 65, 80 and 100 mile routes and the proceeds benefit the National MS Society and National Foundation for Transplants. SAGS and Rest Stop Hams are needed.

\* Location: Activities Center - Cane Creek Baptist Church, 6176 Orange Grove Rd., Hillsborough, NC 27278

\* Ham Coordinator: John Stone (K3RHJ)

\* Website: [Tour d'Orange](#)

\* **TO VOLUNTEER, FILL OUT THE FORM AT [www.rars.org/public-service.php](http://www.rars.org/public-service.php)**



Continued from the previous page

### 2018 Bike MS: Historic New Bern Ride

**September 8-9, 2018 - Saturday and Sunday - New Bern, NC**

The event features 30, 50, 75 and 100 mile rides each day, requiring SAGS, staff Shadows and Rest Stop Hams. The event benefits the National Multiple Sclerosis (MS) Society and typically draws about 2000 riders.

\* Location: Union Point Park, 210 E Front St, New Bern, NC 28560

\* Ham Coordinator: Brian Young (KA9QJT) for Triangle-area Hams, collaborating w/Bruce (N8UTY) of New Bern

\* Website: [Bike MS New Bern](http://Bike MS New Bern)

\* Facebook (Optional): [Bike MS Ham Radio Support group](http://Bike MS Ham Radio Support group)

\* Additional Info: You are not required to register as a volunteer on the Bike MS website. Do consider making hotel arrangements now. Availability is always limited. When signing up on this website, please also include your t-shirt size.

\* **TO VOLUNTEER, FILL OUT THE FORM AT [www.rars.org/public-service.php](http://www.rars.org/public-service.php)**

### More RARS Field Day 2018 Pictures

Continued from [page 10](#)



## RARS Classifieds

Copied from [www.rars.org/classifieds.php](http://www.rars.org/classifieds.php)

The items below were listed within the last 30 days on the RARS website.

### **IC 706 Free for parts only**

Posted June 29th, 2018 by: WD4MB

Contact: [mbaldock@nc.rr.com](mailto:mbaldock@nc.rr.com)

I have an Icom IC-706 generation I HF-VHF mobile radio that is FREE for anyone that wants it. Please understand that the unit does not work, and I believe that the output filter relays are bad, as this problem was common to that radio. There is no microphone, and no power cable with it. I bought the unit new in 1995, and she has been a good workhorse. She just needs some TLC, but I do not have time. I WILL send this unit to the electronic waste in one week as I need it gone! If interested, please email me at [mbaldock@nc.rr.com](mailto:mbaldock@nc.rr.com). Please, no questions, no looking at it, but just take it. On 6 July 18, it will be laid to rest in E-waste.

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### **MFJ-4115 switching Power Supply**

Posted June 29th, 2018 by: WZ0Q

Contact: [wz0q@outlook.com](mailto:wz0q@outlook.com)

MFJ-4115

POWERSUP - MFJ 4115 switching P.S Have a working power supply, model MFJ-4115.

17 amps max surge , 15 amps continuous.

compact, light weight, heavy duty binding posts,

over voltage protection, over current protection,

quiet internal cooling fan. Have original box and paper work.

Asking \$55.00 or OBO

Dennis

919-413-5998

wz0q

Continued from the previous page

### **Juentai JT-6188 Plus**

Posted June 26th, 2018 by: WZ0Q

Contact: [wz0q@outlook.com](mailto:wz0q@outlook.com)

Juentai JT-6188 Plus

Juentai JT-6188 Plus Radio is like new, bought in 1/18, comes with original box, mic, mounting bracket with hardware, programming cable, and manual,

Asking \$55.00 or OBO

Features & Functions

1. Frequency Range: VHF 136-174MHz UHF:400-480MHz
2. Output Power: VHF 25Watt, UHF 20Watt
3. MSK/5Tone/2Tone/DTMF/CTCSS/DCS
4. Optional signal setting
5. FM Radio Function
6. PTT ID
7. Auto Lock
8. Remote stun
9. Remote Kill
10. Channel Name set
11. 200 Channels

Dennis wz0q

919-413-5998

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### **Various VHF/UHF Hand/Table Scanners and H/T For Sale**

Posted June 19th, 2018 by: K4HF

Contact: [k4hf@arrl.net](mailto:k4hf@arrl.net)

All are as new with papers, good batteries and in their original boxes.

1. Uniden Model 180 - 100 chls, 10 banks, bklite display \$30
2. Uniden model BC 125AT - 500 chls in 10 banks, bklite \$40

Continued from the previous page

3. Uniden Model BCD 396XT APCO25, Digital. up to 1.3 GHz \$120
4. Uniden Model BC785D Desktop APCO125, trunk, Digital to 1.3GHz \$140
5. Yaesu VX3-R H/T 3W 2/440 dualband, w/car & AA adapters \$70

Contact me by e mail, preferred, or (919) 872-6555. Thanks, Chuck

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#### **Ten Tec Package For Sale**

Posted June 16th, 2018 by: K3RDZ

Contact: [jdk3rd@gmail.com](mailto:jdk3rd@gmail.com)

Ten Tec 544 Transceiver and a 229B 2KW antenna tuner with a Turner Plus Three desk microphone.  
(One final is out on the transceiver and 1 segment on the display, can send pictures)

Whole package for \$275

#### **ICOM 718, MFJ-939, Singalink USB, MFJ Power Supply**

Posted June 11th, 2018 by: W4ZWA

Contact: [zackalexander@w4zwa.com](mailto:zackalexander@w4zwa.com)

Icom 718 w/ DSP. Power cable and microphone included. Bought little over a month ago. \$550

MFJ-939 (Icom and Yaesu Cable) 6 Months old \$100.00

Signalink USB (ICOM Cable) Little over a month old \$80.00

MFJ4230MV Power Supply \$60.00

Located in Johnston County but can meet around Raleigh.

Continued from the previous page

### **Misc For Sale**

Posted June 6th, 2018 by: K4HF

Contact: [k4hf@arrl.net](mailto:k4hf@arrl.net)

Heath VHF SWR/PWR Meter, HM 2102, excel condx \$30

Heath 2 Meter H/T Amplifier, 5W in 20W out max. w/manual \$20

3 Position HF Coax Switch \$15

Contact me by e mail or (919) 872-6555 Thanks, Chuck

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### **Super Antenna System Model MP-1 80 thru 6 Meters**

Posted June 6th, 2018 by: K4HF

Contact: [k4hf@arrl.net](mailto:k4hf@arrl.net)

Unused portable antenna system with many accessories and carrying bag for all. Similar to the Buddy Pole antenna system. As new, ready to travel. \$195 Contact me by e mail, preferred, or (919) 872-6555 Thanks, Chuck

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### **OPEK Model HVT-400B HF/VHF Mobile Antenna**

Posted June 6th, 2018 by: K4HF

Contact: [k4hf@arrl.net](mailto:k4hf@arrl.net)

This antenna is about 5.5' long, has a PL 259 connector and is rated at 120 Watts. Like new - \$50 Contact me by e mail, preferred, or (919) 872-6555 Thanks, Chuck

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### **Comet Model CHA250B HF/VHF Vertical antenna**

Posted June 6th, 2018 by: K4HF

Contact: [k4hf@arrl.net](mailto:k4hf@arrl.net)

This 23.4' vertical requires no radials and handles 250 Watts. It has a non tilt mount and weighs 7 lbs. It has an SO 239 connector, in good condition, with instructions - \$195 Contact me by e mail, preferred, or (919) 872-6555 Thanks, Chuck